W.L. Brown, Jr.
COLLECTION

Dedication
to Fr. Thomas Borgmeier, O.F.M., Sc.D. on his 80th Birthday, October 31, 1972

In the beginning of 1961, Fr. Thomas Borgmeier, then 69, decided to pass on to me the sole direction and editorship of this journal. His resolution was based no so much on his age and health, as on his justifiable desire to dedicate himself more freely to his taxonomic research on Phorid flies, which, indeed, reached another astonishing peak during the last decade.

However, the liberation from the editorial task did not last very long. After editing and publishing volume 4 of «Studia Entomologica» (1961), I was elected to an administrative position in the Franciscan Order, that made my continuation as editor of the journal practically impossible. In order to maintain the publication of «Studia Entomologica», Fr. Borgmeier most graciously volunteered to do the actual work of editing without figuring publicly as the editor.

In spite of this time and energy consuming sacrifice, by some mysterious means, he also managed to carry on his research at a maximum intensity. Between the years of 1961 and 1971, he published 44 papers; 34 of these deal with the taxonomy of Phoridae, total over 2000 pages and contain the description of over 650 new species and 23 new genera in this family.

Now, approaching his 80th birthday, Fr. Borgmeier feels that time has come to retire, if not from his research (which fortunately enough he intends to carry on), but definitely from the editorial assignment, which is effectively taken over by myself with the present volume.

This is an occasion for a brief evaluation of the past. Fr. Borgmeier completes his 52nd year of highly productive activity in entomology, starting with his first publication in 1920. He has published, so far, nearly 250 scientific papers which fill more than 5000 pages. He has authored over 1000 new species and about 75 valid genera of Phoridae, about 100 new species and several genera of ants, several decades of new species and

a few new genera of myrmecophilous coleoptera. This accomplishment alone ranks him among the foremost entomologists of our time.

But in addition, he started and maintained all by himself two entomological journals, first the «Revista de Entomologia», which grew up to 22 volumes in the years between 1931 and 1951, and had to be discontinued due to adverse circumstances. Then came «Studia Entomologica», which began as a series of monographs (1952 to 1955), but, with the help of the «Conselho Nacional de Pesquisas» of Brasil, was transformed into a journal, in 1958, and is now in its 15th year.

Fr. Borgmeier's remarkable activity, no doubt, deserves recognition by all entomologists. The dedication of the present volume to his name is but a small token of our gratitude and admiration. We wish him a happy birthday, good health and still many years of enjoyable work with his beloved insects.

Walter W. Kempf, O.F.M.